

BENT RIM BUGLE

Vol. 9 No. 4 - 1996

Info Published on behalf of the Michigan Mountain Biking Association

Annual Meeting 1996



For \$12.00 You Can Have It!

Have a T-shirt that is. The cover of this issue of the Bent Rim Bugle is a T-shirt. It was produced in celebration of our 1996 Annual Meeting, which took place in Davisburg (near Pontiac) at Springfield Oaks. Nearly 400 MMBA members and mountain biking enthusiasts were in attendance to recognize fellow volunteers and racers in the awards ceremony. They also had an opportunity to enjoy the wit and wisdom of Keith Bontrager, frame designer/builder of Bontrager Bicycle frames and accessories (part of TREK USA). If you act fast (really fast - only a few are left...), you can get a shirt that is signed by Keith. For more on the 1996 Annual meeting turn to page 2! Order your shirt(s) today!



To get an extra set of stickers* for your mountain bike and your car send \$1.00 and a SASE (self addressed stamped envelope) to cover the cost of printing and mailing the new stickers to MMBA, P.O. Box 29 Belmont, MI 49306. On the other hand, when you renew your 1996 membership you'll be sent new stickers with membership packet. (*current MMBA members only)

1996 Annual Meeting T-Shirt

Keith Bontrager Edition

(Large[] X-Large []) \$12.00 _____

Limited Number of 1995 Annual Meeting

T-Shirts / Gary Fisher Edition

(Large[] X-Large []) \$12.00 _____

*NON-MMBA Member add \$2.00 Shipping: _____

Total..... _____

Mailing address (please print/signed/shirts available on a first come basis...)

Name: _____

Address: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Send to: MMBA T-Shirts P.O. Box 29, Belmont, MI 49306

*Shipping included in \$12.00 price for MMBA members

Put Your Head In Here!*

*Please, in the interest of safety: Always make sure your head is securely fastened on before inserting it into anything. Not responsible for shirt put on backwards or upside down. Always remove shirt before putting it into the washing machine and/or dryer. Though the list of uses for this shirt (ie: freezer bag, hand cloth, signal flag, formal wear, dew-rag, etc.) are very extensive - it is not recommended for use as a birth-control device. Read all instructions before use.



Your Official Michigan Mountain Biking Association T-shirt is waiting:

Color: unbleached cotton fabric shirt / custom color logo-medium forest green

Sizes: Large & X-Large super heavyweight

Donation to the MMBA of: \$17.00/ includes shipping & handling.

Send Check (make out to MMBA):

MMBA T-Shirt

P.O. Box 29 Belmont, MI 49306

Also available at these MMBA shops: Tom Nell Bicycle LTD./

Waterford≈Highwheeler/Holland-Grand Rapids≈

Speed Merchant's/Rockford≈ If your shop would like to have the cool MMBA shirt on hand for your customers just call: 616-785-0120 NOW!

1996 MMBA ANNUAL MEETING:

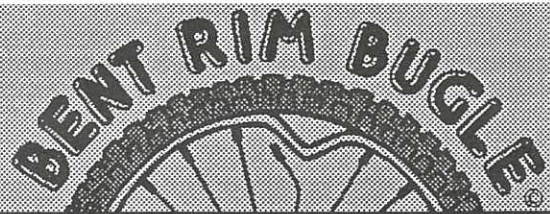
**Volunteers Cheered/Racers Applauded
Keith Bontrager Dons a Stocking Cap and -
nearly 400 MMBA members/mountain
bikers enjoy the show!**

Nearly 400 enthusiastic mountain bikers attended this year's Michigan Mountain Biking Association Annual Meeting and MMBA Championship Points Series and Volunteers of the Year awards ceremony. It was held on February 4, in Davisburg, Michigan (near Pontiac) at the Springfield Oaks, Oakland County Parks facility. (Thank you Oakland Country Parks!)

The day began with about thirty riders joining the annual meeting's guest speaker, Keith Bontrager: enthusiast, frame builder mountain bike innovator extraordinaire. The temperature was around 25 degrees below zero, not including the wind-chill; however the sign that was draped over the trail-head at the Pontiac Lakes Recreation Area read, "Welcome to summer in Michigan - Keith!" Keith, of course, is from California. When asked about riding Keith said, "According to the cold weather clothes I was told to bring when I came here from California, I would guess that winter in California would be like it is here in July or something. Thanks to those who lent me some real riding gear..." Keith kept his stocking cap on for the entire meeting (see



Keith kept his stocking cap on for the entire meeting. Rumor is he'll be taking it off sometime in April after he warms up from the ride...



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"Our Mother Earth"

Use them wisely and recycle.

This magazine is printed on recycled paper.

The Philosophy for the first hill-climb of 1996 (for some of us it's every hill-climb in 1996) - dread only one pedal stroke at a time...

The art of life is the sensation, to feel that we exist, even in pain...now push that pedal down one more time...don't you just love mountain biking.

picture). Rumor is he'll be taking it off sometime in April after he warms up from the ride...

MMBA members also unloaded about \$3,000 worth of bike equipment at the MMBA used bike equipment sale/swap that took place the day of the meeting. The sale/swap empowered the MMBA with about \$300 for land access work, as 10% of items sold was donated to the MMBA.

Volunteers and MMBA Championship Points Series awards were also handed out as a

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Meeting Cont. From Pg. 3

crowd of around 400 people joined in the celebration of the efforts of those who worked on the trail and those who raced. The others were milling around the bike swap, the DNR info tables and/or grabbing some food. By the way, if you need to know how you did in the 1995

MMBA Championship Points series, just drop into an MMBA bike shop, they will have a complete list available. You can also consult the last issue of the MMBA newsletter, the **Bent Rim Bugle** as the final standings are also listed there.

State DNR Park Managers and National Forest Managers were also on hand to share information, maps and ideas on mountain biking

in their parks and forests. Many MMBA members/mountain bikers got a lot of questions answered and found out just what is out there to ride. There was food available, and many

attending the event. Anyone could find out what was the latest and greatest in mountain biking this year.

The 1996 MMBA Championship Points Series was also unveiled. This year's sponsor is TREK and the TREK Dealers throughout Michigan and surrounding states. With the support of TREK and TREK Dealers, this year's points series will be the best ever! Race venues will include races on the east and west sides of the state and in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Look for a calendar of races at your favorite bike shop and in publications and media throughout the region. If you have any questions or need more info on the annual meeting and/or this year's trail maintenance or points series activities just call:

616-785-0120

E-mail Go_MMBA@aol.com or check out our new world wide web side at: <http://www.mmba.com>.

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MMBA member bicycle shops brought in a wide selection of bikes and accessories to look at for those

BENT RIM BUGLE PUBLISHING INFO

The Bent Rim Bugle (BRB) is published 4 times a year (quarterly) Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter. The BRB is the source for news and information for the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA). Articles come from MMBA members, MMBA Chapter Presidents, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and other sources. The focus of the BRB is on what is of interest to MMBA members as well as environmental issues, land access, mountain biking events, rides, competition, fun and other activities and information related to the mountain biking.

Editorial contributions and photos are welcomed, but cannot be returned unless accompanied by proper postage. Send contributions to: MMBA/BRB P.O. Box 29, Belmont MI 49306. The BRB also can provide classified ads to MMBA members for free and advertising space to shops and manufactures. For deadlines and rates contact the address above or call, (616) 785-0120 or AOL E-Mail: Go_MMBA@aol.com. (Net: Go_MMBA@aol.com) MMBA Web site: <http://www.mmba.com>.

Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the MMBA, Publisher, and/or MMBA members, Dealers, or Sponsors. In other words, lighten-up it's mountain biking not world hunger... Copyright, April 1996, all rights reserved. reserved..blah, blah...



Sponsored
By Trek
and Trek
Dealers In
Michigan

See Calendar
On Page 12



TRAIL CLOSES: MANISTEE RIVER TRAIL Huron/Manistee National Forest

On November 17, 1995, Huron-Manistee National Forest Supervisor, Steve Kelley, signed a special closure order prohibiting mountain bikes and

horse use on the Manistee River Trail. The 10 1/2 mile, Manistee River Trail parallels the east side of the Manistee River between the Seaton Creek Campground and Coates Highway. Constructed in 1993, the trail provides many scenic views of the plants and animals of the area.

Since the Manistee River Trail's construction, the Forest Service has monitored use and trail conditions. Trail use has steadily increased and is expected to continue to grow with the installation of the new footbridge across the Manistee River near

Hodenpyl Dam.

Current use levels are creating visible impacts to the trail surface. Waterbars have been damaged when by-passed by bicycle traffic. The implications of this type of by-pass activity is that, impact occurs very quickly. On any trail do not go around water bars, go over them or get off your bike and walk! In addition, wet areas are becoming muddy and rutted - lesson

here: **don't ride multi-use trails (hiking/biking/cross-country ski trail) when conditions are wet and or muddy!** Stay on designated mountain bike trail only, private mountain biking lands, or go for a walk/run instead! These increased resource impacts are no longer acceptable and trail hardening methods, such as importing of gravel and installation of more turnpikes would detract from the trail experience the Forest Service wishes to provide on this trail and would also be cost prohibitive in this instance. **Lesson here: if you're not willing to volunteer your time to maintain the trails you ride, there will not be enough resources to keep them open. It matters not whether it's a multi-use trail and/or a mountain biking trail.**

The National Forest Service believes this closure will help provide a quality recreational experience on the trail and protect the precious resources of the area. They would appreciate your support and cooperation in helping protect the natural resources and scenic beauty of the Manistee River Trail. If you have any questions regarding this closure, please contact Assistant Ranger John Hojnowski at (616) 723-2211 or the MMBA at: 616-785-0120

...this means, on any trail do not go around water bars, go over them or get off your bike and walk!

MMBA Responsibility Code

1. Always yield the right of way to other trail users.
2. Slow down and pass with care (or stop).
3. Control your speed at all times.
4. Stay on designated trails.
5. Don't disturb wildlife or livestock.
6. Pack out litter.
7. Respect public and private property.
8. Know local rules.
9. Plan ahead.
10. Avoid riding in large groups.
11. Minimize impact.
12. Report incidents of trail impasse to local park authorities.

WHAT THE MMBA NEEDS TO SERVE YOU BETTER:

1. Each chapter needs a member to print and mail a postcard once a month to local members, listing Chapter-related MMBA activities.
2. The MMBA needs people to attend MMBA Points Series Races to sign up members, take questions and forward them to appropriate MMBA officers, and to talk about what the MMBA does and has done.
3. In the summer not a month, and in some cases not a week, goes by where there is not an MMBA trail maintenance activity going on somewhere in our state. Call and get involved. Your riding depends on it! Call your local Chapter President, the numbers are on page 8.

Where are We Going?

By Kristopher Ouvry
MMBA President

Over the past year the MMBA has made some decisions that will take the organization to a different level. As I promised in 1995, I would bring more of a business sense to the MMBA and I believe that

our membership to purchase a NORBA license to race in our series. So, for now, the state of Michigan will have three competing point series, which I believe will promote competition among promoters to raise the level of their events to draw the racers.



to provide up-to-date point series results and trail maintenance activities.

In an effort to increase membership, the MMBA state board implemented a new program that rewards the chapters with \$10.00 for each new member it signs up. It will also be coming out with a new (multicolored) membership application that presents the MMBA in a more professional manner.

All in all, I believe that our chapter presidents and board members are making the decisions that will make the MMBA a more stable association, not just for now, but for many mountain biking years to come. You can be assured that when there's a threat to a trail near you, we will be there (all 1300+ members) to help you keep it open.

Thank you.

*Because of support of
Trek USA we are able to offer a \$3000.00 grant
program to our
chapters for new trail
development and trail*

has happened.

In 1996 the MMBA has started accepting Master Card, Visa, and Discover to make it easier for members to join and make donations. We now have a home page on the Internet (<http://www.mmba.com>) to get the word out about our organization, to solicit new members, enlighten trail advocacy for mountain biking and to serve as a service for our members to keep up-to-date on chapter news and point series results.

The MMBA also had talks with NORBA about combining our point series with theirs. The promoters and our race committee members made a hard decision to remain on our own.

They believe that NORBA really didn't add any value to our series at this time and didn't want to require

I believe that the MMBA still has the strongest point series in the state and with Trek coming on board as our major sponsor it will be even stronger. Because of Trek we are able to offer a \$3000.00 grant program to our chapters for new trail development and trail maintenance. Also, because of Trek and the generosity of MMBA point series race promoters (they will be giving \$1.00/rider for each point series race), we will generate more than \$22,000 in revenue. Over half of this money will go right back into trail advocacy for mountain bikers, the rest to the points series for 96.

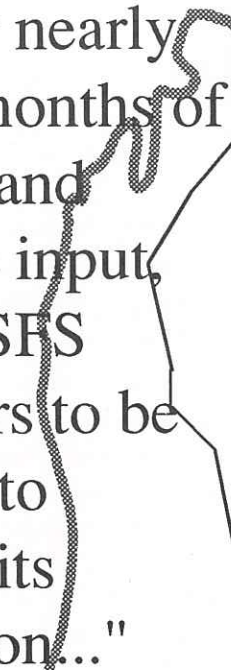
The MMBA will also have a tent at each point series event (believe me you can't miss it) to promote mountain biking trail awareness, recruit new members, answer questions, and

"...rather than see Calvin and Hobbes stenciled on everything... like so much cheap graffiti... Watterson has walked away... the passing of Calvin and Hobbes should be an epiphany for those of us in the bicycle industry. Don't get too focused on squeezing every last dollar from something you love, you may end up squeezing the fun out of it..."

O'Grady Feb. BRIN



"After nearly nine months of study and public input, the USFS appears to be ready to make its decision..."



Notes From The North

By Doug Nelson / President Northern Chapter MMBA

At its January meeting, the Northern Chapter approved the second year appointment of its officers: Doug Nelson of Cadillac - President, Dennis Bean-Larson of Kingsley - Vice-President, Shirley Johnson of Benzonia - Secretary, and Jerry Nilsson of Cadillac - Treasurer. Also appointed were events co-chairs, John Hines and Jake Woroniecki, both of Cadillac, whose responsibility will be scheduling maintenance days, rides, and social events for the chapter.

Trails access issues dominated the agenda, with the North Country Trail on the front burner. After nearly nine months of study and public input, the USFS appears to be ready to make its decision regarding the status of the 118 miles of NCT currently open to mountain bikes in the Manistee National Forest. All the evidence

and input points toward keeping most of those miles open to responsible mountain biking; only short-sighted political input from the National Park Service could be a stumbling block. Senator Carl Levin's office has been silent on the issue, an apparently good piece of news for our cause, since it had been felt that Levin was opposed to multiple-use on the North Country Trail. What can Michigan Mountain bikers do now? Write to Stephen Kelly, Forest Supervisor, Huron-Manistee National Forests, South Mitchell St., Cadillac MI 49601. State to him the value of the trail to you, as a cyclist, and the multiple-use practices of the USFS in general. You might also mention how tragic it would be to lose the support of the MMBA for trail maintenance and education, especially since a closure would by no means keep maverick riders off the North Country Trail.

On another front, the wonderful VASA pathway singletrack sections seem to be in an "on-again off-again" cycle. Traverse City member and mountain biking advocate George Lumbard has been working hard to get the DNR to sign the singletrack sections and open them to a broader range of Michigan trail users. An approval to sign the trail came from the state, but a district decision from the Cadillac office has placed the trail in a state of limbo. State MMBA members should watch this issue closely and urge the State DNR to approve the signing of the additional Vasa Pathway. It is simply too good to not be open to all Michigan trail users, not just those in the Traverse City area who know where to go without the help of maps and/or signs.

For more info contact Hector Chiunti, State Forest Recreation and

Trails, Forest Management Division, Michigan DNR, P.O. Box 30452, Lansing MI 48909-7952.

A big MMBA "thank you" to George Lumbard is also in order. Thanks George!

The DNR's Cadillac Pathway received a major upgrading last summer, with many sandy, eroded singletrack sections improved with geo-webbing and gravel. **The DNR deserves a huge round of applause for their excellent work in Cadillac. Harold Kibbe, Jim Gray, and Dennis Vitton of the DNR are particularly responsible for the excellent work.** The 10 mile trail is close to Cadillac and is highly popular with area mountain bikers. For information on the Pathway or the North Country Trail, contact Doug Nelson at (616) 775-0154.

[Ed. Notes] At the March meeting of the Northern Chapter plans were made for our spring ride out at the Mackenzie X-Country Ski trail near Caberfae. It will take place on April 21st at 9:00am. You can meet at McClain's Cycling in Downtown Cadillac and drive to the trail from there or meet at the trailhead. The ride will be for everyone with fun and fun and fun being the objective. Prizes and activities are also planned, call: (616) 775-0154 for more info. Strategies for fund-raising and Northern Chapter visibility out on the trail were also discussed. There are now plans to get out on the trail on busy days and let mountain bikers know who is caring for the trails in the North country. Up-dates on the VASA and Old Mission Peninsula trails were also given. Call for current info...

Victory goes to the one who makes the next to the last mistake...

Saveilly Grigorievitch Tartakower

I just had to put that name in print...hopefully without a mistake.

Important Trail Event Dates: Mark Your Calendar and Get Out On The Trails!



TREK USA

Thanks Trek USA for support of our trails.

TRAIL BENEFIT/MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY AROUND MICHIGAN!

Contact numbers listed for up-dated info on maintenance and events in your local chapter. Call your President for more information. Most local chapters have regular mailings or calendar of info also - Again, questions? Just call them!

Chapter Presidents/contacts for the MMBA

MID-MICHIGAN: Lisa Lazaroff (517) 782-9093

(Alt. Mid-MI/Gen. State-Wide Trail Info):

Dennis Hansen (517) 349-4683

POTAWATOMI: Emil Sims (313) 663-3113

SOUTHEAST: Ken Bednark (313) 699-5556

PONTIAC LAKE: Jay Jones (810) 373-9937

WESTERN MICH: John Haffenden (616) 365-0468

NORTHERN MICH: Doug Nelson (616) 775-0154

HOLLY/FLINT: Kirk Costello (810) 634-4091

SOUTHWEST: Kristopher Ouvre (616) 731-4009

NORTHEAST: Contact Todd Dewell (517) 345-4523

UPPER PENINSULA: Contact

Jack McHugh (517) 267-0804 (temp.)

Get Involved!

March 31 - Deep Lake Trail Maintenance at Yankee Springs 10:00am Deep Lake Parking Lot call: Western MMBA Hotline at 616-365-0468

April 6 - The Southwest Chapter will be holding its second annual Fort Custer Stampede Point Series Race. (Saturday) It will be Saturday, with registration opening at 8:30 am. All proceeds will go to trail work and advocacy for mountain bike trails in southwest Michigan, call 616-453-4245

April 13 - Holdridge Lake Mountain Bike Trail Maintenance

9:00am: Kirk Costello (810) 634-4091

April 13 - Brighton Trail Expansion: (Saturday) 9:30am - meet at Bishop Lake Trailhead Parking lot call: (313) 699-5556 or 810-231-1663

April 18 - Thursday, 7:00pm - Southeastern Annual Chapter Meeting - 1996 Kick Off of events and activities for the season: Haggerty House N.E. corner of Haggerty & I-94 / I-275 N. or S. to I94 West, 1st exit west of I-275 is Haggerty. Easy on/Easy off Lost? Call: 313-699-9092 Other Southeastern Chapter #: Hotline (313) 699-5556 Recorded message/weekly update each Saturday / Fax (313) 699-5558

April 14 - Maybury Trail Day (Sunday) call: (313) 699-5556

April 21 - The Western Chapter will be holding the Deep Lake Trail Benefit: Yankee Springs event for raising funds for the support of the trail: call 616-453-4245.

April 21 Spring Ride: Northern Chapter of the MMBA and McClain's Cycle in Cadillac/ Meet at Mackenzie X-Country Ski Trail Head 9:00am/ prizes/fun and activities for all! (near Caberfae)

April 28 - Ionia Recreation Area Chief Cobmoosa Trail: Trail maintenance day - call Village Bike Shop Trail maintenance day sponsor!: 616-455-4870

May 17-19 - Cave Run Lake KY (Yes, Kentucky). Potawatomi Chapter & Cascade Cycling Club call: Poto HotLine at 313-663-9940 or Michael Hayes at 517-784-6761

May 25-26-27 Pine Haven Recreation Area: Memorial Day Weekend Membership Drive: Contact Todd, 517-345-4523 or Kevin at 517-839-6562

June 1 - CAMBA Fat Tire Poker Ride IV- Cable Cluster of the CAMBA trails, Cable Wisconsin 10:00am call: 800-533-7454

June 2 - Pine Haven Recreation Area: Trail Maintenance, at 9:00 am meet at trail head off main parking lot - info call: Dave Hatton at 517-753-6068

June 2 - National Trails Day: All Michigan Mountain Biking Association Chapters will be having a trail related event. Contact your local MMBA Chapter for info:

June 2 - Ionia Recreation Area Chief Cobmoosa Trail: Grand Opening - Call Dan's Bike and Lock Shop for more info: 616-527-0471

June 2 - Holdridge Lakes: National Trails Day Event call: 810-634-4091

June 2 - Potawatomi Trail Care: Sunday 9:30am: call Emil Sims 313-663-3113

June 2 - Bald Mountain call (Sunday): (313) 699-5556

June 9 - Triple Trail Challenge Benefit (Saturday): Ride will be canceled if it rains, call: 313-747-9827 or Poto Hotline 313663-9940

June 9 - Ogemaw Hills Pathway West Branch MI. Meet at 10:00am at Fairview Rd. trailhead. Call: Todd 517-345-4523

July 12-14 - West Virginia Adventure - Potawatomi Chapter & Cascade Cycling Club call: Poto HotLine at 313-663-9940 or Michael Hayes at 517-784-6761

July 14 - Rifle River State Recreation Area - Lupton, MI. Meet at 10:00am main parking lot. Call: Todd 517-345-4523

July 28 - Pontiac Lake MTB Time Trail: an event for raising funds for the benefit of the trail: call 810-634-6187

August 17 - Potawatomi Trail Care (Saturday): 9:30am: call Emil Sims 313-663-3113

August 18 - Pontiac Lakes Recreation Area Northeast Chapter Southern Adventure. Meet in main parking lot near trail head 10:00am - Call Jason or Dave at: 517-753-6068

August 25 - Pine Haven Recreation Area: Trail Maintenance, at 9:00 am meet at trailhead off main parking lot - info call: Dave Hatton at 517-753-6068

Sept. 6 - 8 - Searchmont, Ontario Adventure - Potawatomi Chapter & Cascade Cycling Club call: Poto HotLine at 313-663-9940 or Michael Hayes at 517-784-6761

Sept. 7 - Carry Nation Back Road Bike Tour (Saturday) - Holly call 810-634-4091

Sept. 8 - Shanty Creek Resort Ride. Bellaire MI. Meet at Schuss Mountain parking lot 12:00noon. Call John at (home) 517-832-03736 or (work) 517-496-2810

Sept. 21 - St. Jude's Mountain Bike-a-thon (Saturday) - Oak Hill Farm call: 810-634-4091

Sept. 22 - Friends of the Poto Festival (Saturday): Look for flyers and more info come in August, call: 313-663-3113

October 20 - (Saturday) Fall Color Ride - Holly to local Cider Mill and Back call: 810-634-4091

*******OF NOTE TO ALL*******

Poto Regular Group Rides: Beginners Wed. nights at Island Lake Recreation Area Parking Lot 6:00pm call: Poto HotLine at 313-663-9940

Poto Friday Night Intermediate/Advanced Rides, Meet in center of Potawatomi Trailhead parking lot 6:00pm, call: Poto HotLine at 313-663-9940

Holly Monday Night Rides Start In

April call: 810-634-4091

Proud Lake Recreations Area: New Trail Being Developed call: Bud at 313-421-5341

Bass River Trail Development: New trail going in southeast of Grand Haven call 616-365-0468

Stony Creek Metro Park : Bing Eberhart, manager of Stony Creek Metro park, is concerned about the misuse of trails in the park. He would like the MMBA to organize and sign the trails into a one-way loop using the existing trails. Much work will be needed on the project to close some of the existing trails and repair others. All contact for this project will be handled through Dan Duncan, Chief Planner for the Metro park system.

Call: (313) 699-5556 for updates on situation.

Multi-Use Notices:

May 19 - Rocket Dog Running Club 10km Run at Island Lake - Please use alternate trail(s) contact Jim Betz 810-348-5866

April 27 - 2:30pm Crooked Lake Trail of the Potawatomi Trail will have a running event on it. Please don't ride trail until about 4:00pm

April 28 - 8:00am Poto - 13 mile loop, Marathon Run will be over at about 2:00pm - Please choose alternate riding area or join them to run.

Sept. 7 - Dances With Dirt Relay. Use of about 4 miles of Poto between 11:00 am and 2:00pm Use alternate trail(s)

Always call if you need more info or have questions call your chapter president... Can't get through call 616-785-0120

MMBA SHOP AND MANUFACTURER

MEMBERS

Is Your Shop Here? The shops listed here care about where you ride. Does your shop? **THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

BIKE SHOPS

Al Petri & Sons, Inc. / Woodhaven, MI -

(313)675-5566

Balsam Sports / Saint Ignace, MI -

(906)643-6395

The Bicycle Shop / Grayling, MI -

(517)348-6868

Bike Specialists / Niles, MI -

(616)683-3100

Bike USA, Inc. / Bloomfield Hills, MI -

(810)646-7565

Bikesport Landspeed / Dearborn, MI -

(313)278-1350

Breakaway Bicycles / Muskegon, MI -

(616)759-0001

Brick Wheels * B-Xtreme / Traverse City, MI -

(616)947-4274

Buffalo Bob's Bicycle Repair / Flat Rock, MI -

(313)782-1790

Dan's Bicycle & Lock Shop / Ionia, MI -

(616)527-0471

Dirt Works, Inc. / Comstock Park, MI -

(616)784-0691

Fraser Schwinn Cycling & Fitness, Inc. / Fraser, MI -

(810)294-4070

Great Lakes Cycling & Fitness Adventure / Ann Arbor, MI

(313)668-6484

Highwheeler Bike Shop / Holland, MI -

(616)396-6084

Highwheeler Bike Shop / Grand Rapids, MI -

(616)365-BIKE

Livonia Schwinn Bicycle & Fitness / Livonia, MI -

(810)476-1818

Mclain Cycling & Fitness / Traverse City, MI -

(616)941-8855

Mclain Cycling & Fitness / Cadillac, MI -

(616)775-6161

Mountain Man Ski Shop / Toledo, OH -

(419)536-0001

North Kent Schwinn Cycling & Fitness / Grand Rapids, MI

(616)363-0705

On 2 Wheels / Jackson, MI -

(517)789-6077

Pedal & Tour, Inc. / Jackson, MI -

(517)789-6362

Prestige Cycles / Clinton Township, MI -

(810)792-4040

Ralston Cycle Sales / Traverse City, MI -

(616)941-7161

Ray's Bike Shop / Midland, MI -

(517)835-1691

Rock 'n' Road Cycle / Grand Haven, MI -

(616)846-2800

The Speed Merchants / Rockford, MI -

(616)866-2226

Stoney Creek Schwinn Cycling & Fitness / Washington, MI -
(810)781-4451

Surf, Skate, & Wheel / Bay City, MI -

(517)686-8088

Tom Nell Bicycles, Ltd. / Waterford, MI -

(810)682-5456

Tri-City Bicycle HQ / Midland, MI -

(517)496-2810

Velocipede Peddler East / Lansing, MI -

(517)351-7240

The Village Bike & Ski Shop / Jenison, MI -

(616)457-1670

Village Cyclery / Schoolcraft, MI -

(616)679-4242

RACE PROMOTORS

Active Sports, Inc. / Grand Rapids, MI -

(616)458-7345

Amanick Promotions / Waterford, MI -

(810)673-9895

Chequamegon Fat Tire Festival / Cable, WI -

(715)798-3811

Fun Promotions, Inc. / Grand Rapids, MI -

(616)453-4245

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Grip Shift/SRAM / Chicago, IL -

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Quiet World Recreation / Jackson, MI -

(800)750-2103

Trek Bicycle Corp. / Waterloo, WI -

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Bobcat Marketing / Los Gatos, CA -

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Maple Lane Florist / Clawson, MI -

(810)585-0302

Sun Sky Wind / Central Lake, MI -

(616)544-2069

ZZ Underwater World / Lansing, MI -

(517)485-3894

Please Note: In our continuing Dealer Membership Drive we have received some new dealer support and they will be noted in the next BRB. Bold lettering denotes special contributions and/or promotions for MMBA members - Thank You very much!

10% CLUB MEMBER BUSINESS

AS AN MMBA MEMBER YOU RECEIVED A LIST OF THE 10% MEMBERS WHEN YOU JOINED AND/OR WILL RENEW MEMBERSHIP THIS YEAR. IF YOUR SHOP/MANUFACTURER WOULD LIKE TO BECOME AN MMBA 10% MEMBER IN ADDITION TO BEING A PROUD SHOP/MANUFACTURER MEMBER OF THE MMBA JUST CALL 616-785-0120 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

A REMINDER TO ALL MMBA MEMBERS: ALL THE SHOPS/MANUFACTURERS ON LAST PAGE ARE SPECIAL. THEY SUPPORT YOUR EFFORTS ON THE TRAIL AND IN THE MMBA POINTS SERIES. THEY DESERVE YOUR PATRONAGE!!!!!!

By :

**Fred Tyszka, Park Supervisor
Pontiac Lake Recreation Area**

Hopefully this is the start of a regular series of articles dealing with the Pontiac Lake Recreation Area that can be generalized to other State Parks. The contents will vary as to the seasons, events, problems and accom-

downwards, at first a few inches then as winter progresses to 16" or more depending on the area and the severity of the winter. The problem with this is that the ground also thaws the same way, from top down. As spring moves along, the top layer of soil starts to defrost and this, along with the remaining snow, starts to float because the frozen ground underneath has sealed off this layer and this water mush has no where to go. So you have this floating muddy mass that ruts easily and can easily destroy a trail surface through erosion and whatever by riding on them. It then creates an unsafe condition that

re-quires a lot of maintenance man hours to repair. Once the ground thaws, it is as if you unclogged a drain.



"...It is also noted that the conscientious riders take to 'Sub-Riding'. No they do not start riding with snorkels and periscopes, but they stay in shape by riding in their subdivisions and the paved bike paths. They do this until the frost leaves the ground..."

Park Ranger Pet Peeves - Bikers with expensive cars, expensive bikes and expensive outfits trying all types of tricks to

avoid buying a Motor Vehicle Permit. An injured biker sat in our campground office asking for a ride back to his car

because he had converted his rigid bike into a collapsible and

couldn't ride it even if he could unfold it. We offered him a ride and when asked where he was parked at, he said the "Church Lot". I wanted to tell him to call the church and see if they would send someone to pick him up, but we bit our tongues and assisted him back to his expensive car.

RIDING BOTH SIDES OF THE FENCE RIDING BOTH SIDES OF THE FENCE

plishments. The proper use of what is known as the English Language will also vary, based on who does the proofreading, hopefully the perfectionists will be patient with me. You must also be warned about a few attempts at humor as well as some environmental and conservation education attempts.

Spring has sprung and the first hint of this as noticed by our regular riders is that they are no longer riding on top of the trails but in them. It is also noted that the conscientious riders take to 'Sub-Riding'. No they do not start riding with snorkels and periscopes, but they stay in shape by riding in their subdivisions and the paved bike paths. They do this until the frost leaves the ground. What happens is the ground during the winter, freezes



The water almost overnight soaks into the ground and the top layer settles down and is no longer floating.

For those of you into nature, which usually depends on how you land, you will be seeing the first flowers of spring. If you land face down, one of the first flowers noticed will be the trailing arbutus. It looks like a ground-ivy but has beautiful, fragrant, white flowers that will often bloom under the snow. If you land on your back you will see some flowers that very few people notice, the flowers on the trees. Observable will be the Maples, Aspen and Pussy Willows at first. If you lay there long enough, till the ringing in

The MMBA wholeheartedly supports the purchase of a State Park Vehicle Permit when using State Park trails.

Michigan Mountain Biking Association



1996

TREK^{USA}

Championship Point Series

March

31

Deep Thaw Classic

Whiskey Creek Resort, Ludington
Active Sports, 616/458-7345
FEE: \$20 by 3/26, \$25 day of. START: 11 am KIDS RACE: No
23 mile loop. All classes ride same course in waves beginning at 11 am.

April

6

Fort Custer Stampede

Fort Custer Recreation Area, Augusta
Mike Needham, 616/731-4078
FEE: \$20 postmark by 4/1, \$25 day of. REG: 9 am to 3 pm ^{TS}
START: Exp 10 am, Sport 1 pm, Beg 3:30 pm KIDS RACE: Yes/\$5/2 pm
Benefit race for the Southwest chapter of the MMBA.

21

Deep Lake Trail Benefit

Yankee Springs Recreation Area, Hastings
Breakaway Bicycles, 616/349-5555
Fun Promotions, 616/453-4245
FEE: \$15/20 by 4/14, \$20/25 day of. REGISTRATION: 8 to 9:30 am
START: 10 am KIDS RACE: Yes/\$5/12 pm
Benefit time trial for trail. Night riding & camping on Saturday, 4/20.

May

5

Boyne Challenge

Boyne Mountain Resort, Boyne Falls
Fun Promotions, 616/453-4245
FEE: \$20 by 4/28, \$25 day of. REG: 8 to 1/2 hr before start ^{TS}
START: Exp/Sport 11 am, Beginner 1:45 pm KIDS: Yes/\$5/1:30 pm
Slalom & Downhill races on 5/4 at 1 pm.

12

Addison Oaks Spring MTB Race

Addison Oaks County Park, Leonard
Oakland County Parks, 810/858-4647
FEE: \$20 by 5/3, \$25 day of. REGISTRATION: 9 to 1/2 hour before start

July

14

Pando Challenge

Pando Ski Area, Rockford
Fun Promotions, 616/453-4245
FEE: \$20 by 7/7, \$25 day of. REGISTRATION: 8:30 to 1:30 pm ^{TS}
START: Exp 10 am, Sport 12:30 am, Beg 1:45 pm KIDS: Yes/\$5/2:30 pm
Slalom, off-road 5K run, & biathlon on Saturday, 7/13.

28

Pontiac Lake MTB Time Trial

Pontiac Lake Recreation Area, Waterford
Robert Linden, 810/634-6178
FEE: \$20 postmarked by 7/23, \$25 day of. REGISTRATION: 8 to 10 am
START: 10 am KIDS RACE: Yes/free/12 pm ^{TS}
1/2 mile north of M-59 at Williams Lake Rd.

August

4

Ithaca Challenge

McNabb Park / Ithaca Fairgrounds, Ithaca
Fun Promotions, 616/453-4245
FEE: \$20 by 7/28, \$25 day of. REGISTRATION: 8 to 1:30 pm
START: Exp 10am, Sport 12 pm, Beg 2 pm KIDS RACE: Yes/\$5/1:30 pm

11

Ruby Challenge

Ruby Campgrounds, Port Huron
Fun Promotions, 616/453-4245
FEE: \$20 by 8/4, \$25 day of. REGISTRATION: 8:30 to 1:30 pm
START: Exp 10 am, Sport 12:30 pm, Beg 2:30 pm KIDS: Yes/\$5/2:15 pm

September

1

Garland Hammer

Garland Resort, Lewiston
Larry Kinney, 800/968-0042
FEE: \$20 by 8/27, \$25 day of. REGISTRATION: 1/2 hour prior to race
START: to be announced KIDS RACE: Yes/\$5

15

Mike Cool Memorial Challenge


19

Kandahar Kup at Springfield Oaks

Springfield Oaks Activity Center, Davisburg
 Amanick Promotions, 810/788-8871
 FEE: \$20 by 5/13, \$25 day of. REGISTRATION: 8 to 1/2 hr before start
 START: Expert/Sport 10 am, Beginner 1 pm KIDS RACE: Yes/\$5/3 pm

26

Pando Challenge

Pando Ski Area, Rockford
 Fun Promotions, 616/453-4245
 FEE: \$20 by 5/19, \$25 day of. KIDS RACE: Yes/\$5/2:30 pm
 START: Expert 10 am, Sport 12:30 pm, Beginner 2:45 pm 
 Slalom, dirt criterium, & riders clinic on Saturday, 5/25.

June

15

Keweenaw Chain Drive Festival

Houghton/Hancock
 Fun Promotions, 616/453-4245
 FEE: \$20 by 6/12, \$25 day of. REGISTRATION: 8 to 9:50 am
 START: 10 am. All classes at 1 min int. KIDS RACE: Yes/\$5/12:30 pm
 Part of Bridge Fest 96. Seafood, parade, fireworks.
 Slalom, uphill, & downhill races.

October


6

Oktoberfest at Schuss Mountain

Shanty Creek, Bellaire
 Amanick Promotions, 810/788-8871
 FEE: \$20 by 9/30, \$25 day of. REGISTRATION: 8 am to 1/2 before start
 START: Expert/Sport 10 am, Beginner 1 pm KIDS RACE: Yes/\$5/3 pm

20

Cannonsburg Challenge

Cannonsburg Ski Area, Grand Rapids
 Fun Promotions, 616/453-4245
 FEE: \$20 by 10/13, \$25 day of. REGISTRATION: 8:30 to 1:30 pm 
 START: Exp 10am, Sport 12:30 pm, Beg. 2:45 pm KIDS: Yes/\$5/2:30 pm
 Slalom 12pm on Saturday, 10/19.

Dates and locations subject to change. Always check with the promoter. -  MMBA Tandem Series event.

SPONSORED BY THE FOLLOWING MICHIGAN TREK BICYCLE DEALERS

Bike Haus, Inc. Brighton 810/227-5070	Breakaway Bicycles Muskegon 616/759-0001	Cycle & Fitness USA Walled Lake 810/960-1371	Kentwood Schwinn Kentwood 616/942-1880	Speed Merchants Rockford 616/866-2226	Velocipede Peddler East Lansing 517/351-7240
Bike USA Bloomfield Hills 810/646-7565	Breakaway Bicycles Grand Haven 616/844-1199	Denny's Cyc. & Fitness Lansing 517/321-6700	Pavlat's Cyc. & Fitness Royal Oak 810/542-7182	Team III Battle Creek 616/962-7688	Washtenaw Cyc. & Fit. Ann Arbor 313/971-2121
Bike USA Troy 810/680-1777	Campus Bike & Toy Ann Arbor 313/662-0035	Denny's Cyc. & Fitness East Lansing 517/351-2000	Pointe Cyclery Grosse Pte Woods 313/886-1968	Tom Nell Bicycles, Ltd. Waterford 810/682-5456	Wheels In Motion Fenton 810/629-0969
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Breakaway Bicycles Kalamazoo 616/349-5555	Chicago Dr. Schwinn Grand Rapids 616/531-9911	The Highwheeler Grand Rapids 616/365-BIKE	Smith Cyclery Co. Adrian 517/265-8555		

TREKUSA

I·M·B·A
INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN BICYCLING ASSOCIATION



IMBA Names Two New Board Members

The International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA) has added two public land management experts to its board of directors, thereby increasing the number of IMBA directors to 11. Heidi Davis of Somerville, Massachusetts, is an environmental analyst for the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection's

International Dirt - IMBA Info

Division of Wetlands, where she has worked since 1989. She has recently been certified as a Professional Wetlands Scientist and has nearly completed a certificate program in Native Plant Studies. Davis, a former expert-class mountain bike racer, founded the IMBA-affiliated New England Mountain Bike Association in '87 and served as its president for seven years.

Steve Anderson of Tucson, Arizona, is the Trails Coordinator for Pima County (Arizona) Parks and Recreation. He is a former five-term vice president of the Pima Trails Association—a model volunteer

trails group that links Tucson hikers, horseback riders, and cyclists. Anderson has also served as IMBA's Arizona representative since 1992. He was instrumental in guiding the National Park Service through the process of approving bicycle use on the Cactus Forest Trail at Saguaro National Park—the first singletrack trail opened to bicyclists in the National Park Service system. Anderson recently coordinated IMBA's National Mountain Bike Advocacy Summit at Biosphere II in Oracle, Arizona.

IMBA is an international non-profit advocacy group that promotes environmentally sound and socially responsible mountain biking. IMBA educates off-road cyclists in responsible trail use, works with land managers to enact innovative ideas in trail construction, maintenance and management, and encourages volunteer efforts that benefit public land.

Contact: Tim Blumenthal,
IMBA—303-545-9011

I·M·B·A
INTERNATIONAL MOUNTAIN BICYCLING ASSOCIATION



IMBA Membership Application Form

A nonprofit, volunteer group, IMBA's mission is to promote environmentally and socially responsible mountain bicycling. We publish IMBA Trail News to keep members informed of current issues and events. Donations are tax deductible.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP PRICES:

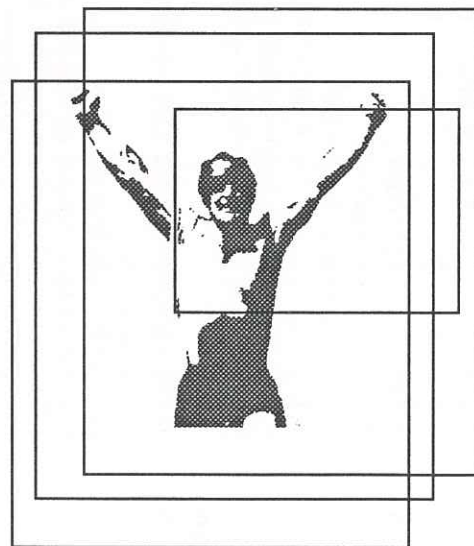
- ☐ Individual or Land Manager\$20
- ☐ Member of an IMBA Affiliated Club.....\$15
- ☐ Supporting Membership (including T-shirt)...\$35
- ☐ Bicycle Club.....\$30
- ☐ Bicycle Dealer\$60 or 120
- ☐ Industrycontact IMBA
- ☐ additional donation for IMBA's programs \$ _____

Canada/Mexico add \$5 for mailing. Outside North America add \$10 for mailing. Mail to: IMBA National Office:

P.O. box 7578
Boulder, Co 80306-7578

Phone: 303-545-9011 fax: 303-545-9026 E-mail : imba@aol.com

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Zip _____
Phone: Home _____



Michigan and the IMBA SUMMIT

Thanks to a generous contribution in the form of transportation from TREK USA, the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA) executive director, was able to attend the first IMBA Summit. Following is some important info from the summit:

In January, 135 mountain bike advocates, land managers, industry representatives, and journalists met in the Arizona desert for IMBA's National Mountain Bike Advocacy Summit at Biosphere II. This three day event included seminars, speeches, workshops, and informal discussions on the key issues of trails advocacy. At the end of the conference, IMBA identified the following goals for 1996:

1. IMBA, in conjunction with our 260 affiliated clubs, will open at least one mile of new trail to mountain bike use every day in 1996 and we'll quantify the total.

2. IMBA, in conjunction with our clubs and individual membership, will perform and track at least 100,000 hours of volunteer trail advocacy work in 1996.

3. IMBA will encourage 100-percent IMBA club participation in National Trails Day '96 in June.

4. Each IMBA-affiliated club will strive to participate in at least one joint project with another trail user group in '96.

5. IMBA will follow the national summit with a series of regional gatherings that will allow IMBA's representatives to share new advocacy strategies.

As you can tell from reading

these goals, IMBA has big plans and high hopes for 1996 which includes Michigan. The aim is to improve the sport of mountain biking by keeping existing trails open, creating new trail opportunities, and working to improve relations among all trail users.

In order to take full advantage of the goals IMBA set at the summit you must take three steps: Join the Michigan Mountain Biking Association (MMBA). It is the only way you can have a link to what goes on nationally, through being involved locally. Your MMBA, executive director is also your statewide IMBA representative. At this time, IMBA does not have the resources to help support the activities of a statewide representative, so in order for IMBA to work on our behalf nationally (National Forests, National Parks, national legislation -ISTEA/Simms, etc.) your support of the MMBA is needed. With your support for the MMBA comes support for our connection and informational resource exchange on a regional and national basis.

This is why IMBA continues to promote the 20-20-20 Vision. IMBA wants all mountain bikers to spend the money (\$22) to join your local mountain bike club and get involved in your local trails. Then, we want you to join IMBA (\$20 basic membership/only \$15 if your local club is an IMBA club) and become a part of the broad-based movement that is working on behalf of mountain bikers everywhere. IMBA's third 20 is a commitment of 20 (the MMBA asks one trail work day...about 6 hours) hours per year for volunteer work on behalf of trails—maintenance, cleanup, committee meetings, phone calls, or letter writing.

You can contact IMBA or the MMBA at any time with your suggestions or comments, or if you have questions about how you can

best help IMBA and MMBA achieve our 1996 goals.

IMBA

P.O. Box 7578 Boulder,
CO 80306-7578
303-545-9011 • fax 303-545-9026
E-Mail: IMBA@aol.com

MMBA

P.O. Box 29
Belmont, MI 49306-0029
616-785-0120 / fax same
E-Mail: Go_MMBA@aol.com
Web Page: <http://www.mmba.com>

ATTENTION MOUNTAIN BIKERS!

Volunteers are needed for an event this fall. This is not for a trail cleanup. There will be no tree trimming, shoveling, raking, chopping hauling or digging. We get to do what we mountain bikers do best - RIDE! Here's the scoop. With the MMBA's assistance, the Michigan Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis (MS) Society is expanding their annual Fall Breakaway bike tour on Sunday, September 15, 1996 to actually include the trails of Island Lake State Recreation Area. That's right, no more dirt roads for the knobby contingent. In a nutshell, you can help in two very important ways.

First, you can be a rider on the tour, helping to earn badly needed sponsorship dollars to help fight MS. For more info on riding the Fall Breakaway Tour, call Karen Breen at the MS Society at (800) 247-7382, ext. 204.

Second, you can be a volunteer helping to patrol the trail and act as guides and tour leaders. Get more details on volunteering for trail patrol and tour guides from Don LeHue at (800) 962-7448 ext. 6889 during the day, or early in the evening, 810-399-8519.

Tribute to a Cyclist

By Dennis DeMilner

Philip DeMilner was first and foremost a cyclist. His life-long commitment to cycling ended in Taipei, Taiwan at age 45. Phil discovered cycling at an early age in Waterford, Michigan when he purchased his first bike - a Schwinn Racer. His enthusiasm for the sport blossomed on that Schwinn Racer which he rode everywhere and kept in prime condition. In his distinctive wit he would say that his bike was powered by a "Sturmey Archer three-on-the-tree." A number of new bikes followed, each one getting more technologically advanced. Rides around the neighborhood soon evolved into long distance challenges. Many century rides followed. Phil rode across the country as part of Bikecentennial in 1976. This was followed by four 1100 mile tours of Baja, California.

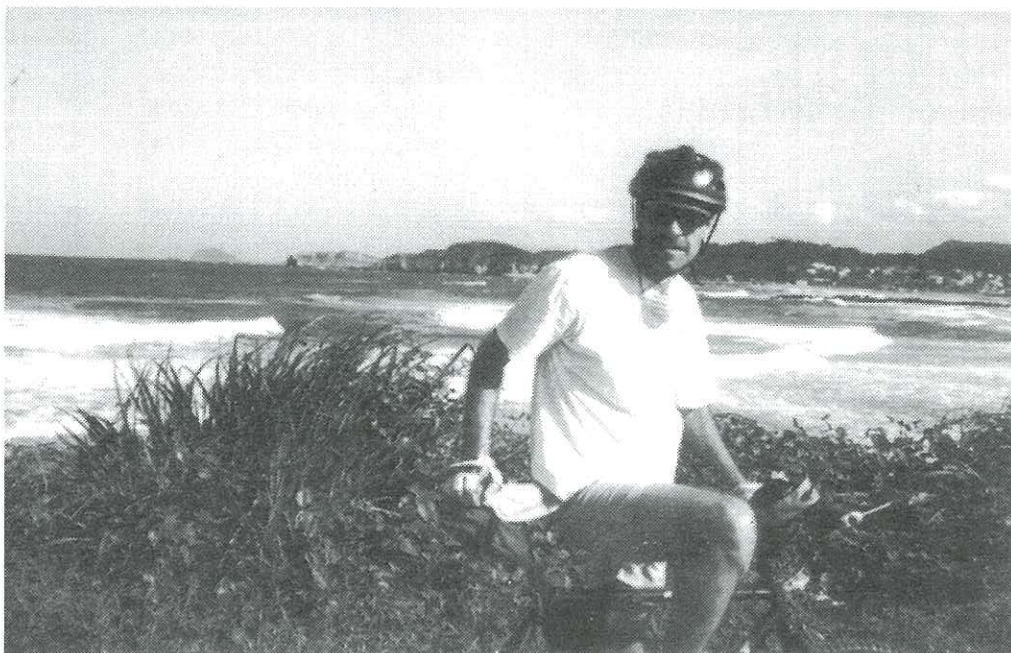
After moving to Taiwan in 1989 he set out to explore that part of the world on his mountain bike. Phil rode around the island country of Taiwan in just six days. He cycled across China and Tibet. Then there was his solo trip from Bangkok to Singapore. In 1994 he was part of the 1200 mile Cycle Vietnam Expedition from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City. His favorite place to ride was in the beautiful mountains of Taiwan's Yangmingshan National Park. Phil cycled there on many weekends. It seemed fitting

to leave some of his ashes to rest at this beautiful place.

Phil approached his career and personal life with the same vigor. He earned Masters Degrees from New Mexico State University and Ohio University. Phil excelled at his career with Acer Inc., advancing his position to Senior Editor for the Technical Publications Department. His writing abilities were further acknowledged when his account of the 1993 tour of Baja California appeared in the China News.

Philip was a humanitarian. He was a Peace Corps volunteer who

contribution to the world. There were many recipients of his unselfish service from those whose lives were saved with the blood he donated, to those farmers he helped in the Philippines, to those whom he taught English, and to the many he inspired to take up cycling. Phil came a long way from that Schwinn Racer to the Giant mountain bike both in cycling and life. He was an intelligent and sensitive person, who during his short life, tried and succeeded to make the world a better place. His contributions shall not be forgotten.



helped farmers in the Philippines. Throughout his life he was an active blood donor with the Red Cross. Phil had recently received an award from the Taipei Red Cross for giving blood 40 times - the second such time he had been honored for this. Philip volunteered much of his free time to teach English to his Chinese colleagues. He helped many students become more fluent in English during his years in Taiwan.

Philip's life was ended tragically in Taipei on November 29, 1995. Without a doubt, he had made a

"...Philip's life was ended tragically in Taipei on November 29, 1995. Without a doubt, he had made a contribution to the world..."

Classified Ads

August 11-18

Fat Tire Tour: A seven-day 300-mile adventure, through the rustic beauty of Michigan's Upper Peninsula call: 313-475-6067/ **Northern Exposure Fat-Tire Tour**, P.O. Box 4189, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

56-58cm Road Bike For Sale.

Red Ciocc (Italian): good condition, Campy Equipped, clinchers, six speed. Excellent training/ racing bike. Detroit Area. \$400 OBO, call Tim @ (810) 569-2902.

Nike Pooh-Bah

Mountain bike shoe: Rasta-colored used one season size 44-45 (10 1/2) - \$35.00 call, John 616-344-8186

Diadora Habanaro

Mountain bike shoe: silver-colored used one season, size 44-45 (10 1/2) - \$40.00 call, John 616-344-8186

Giro Ventoux Helmet

green - used one season - \$40.00 call, John 616-344-8186

Grip Shift X-Ray

8 speed shifter: new in box \$40.00 call, John 616-344-8186

Cannondale F-1000 Red

Like Tinker & Allison Sydor

Magic cranks, Gripshift X-ray, Flite saddle, Pauls Love-Levers, Pauls Stoplight-cantilevers, Mavic 217 wheels, plus much more - \$1200.00 call, John 616-344-8186



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WHY BUY and/or SERVICE YOUR BIKE AT YOUR LOCAL BIKE SHOPS?

We sell high quality bicycles in a wide range of models, prices and styles.

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Our knowledgeable and experienced staff can help you purchase the right bike for your intended use.

We offer a complete line of accessories and safety gear to fit your needs, no matter how exotic. If we don't have the part you're looking for, we'll find it for you!

We'll give you professional advice on the performance compatibility of all our products.

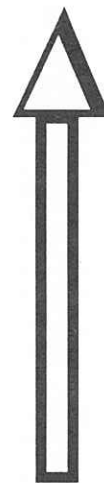
We can offer information on trails, bike routes and area clubs.

We ride what we sell so we really do know the products inside and out.

Add 10 points to your over-all cool-mountain biker score if you go to an MMBA Member shop!

MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION CHAPTER _____
*MMBA price good for only one copy of Atlas: Remit \$25.39 Non-MMBA Price \$28.57 (save over \$3.00 plus \$2.00 per MMBA member book sold will be donated to the MMBA) Renewal Date: _____

Trail Atlas of Michigan* By Dennis R. Hansen
PRICE GOOD ONLY FOR CURRENT MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION MEMBERS!
Send \$25.39 (Includes tax and handling) to:
Hansen Publishing Company, 1801 Birchwood Drive, Okemos, MI 48864
PLEASE PRINT!!!!
NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____
STATE: _____ ZIP: _____
DATE: _____ Phone () _____



Dennis R Hansen, author of the *Michigan Cross Country Skiing Atlas* and *Michigan Trail Atlas*, and President of the Mid-Michigan Chapter of the MMBA is offering a deal to MMBA members:

Trail Atlas of Michigan

Hiking, Cross Country Skiing, Mountain Biking, Nature Trails -

With over 530 trails included in this 600 page atlas, every corner of Michigan is covered. Retail

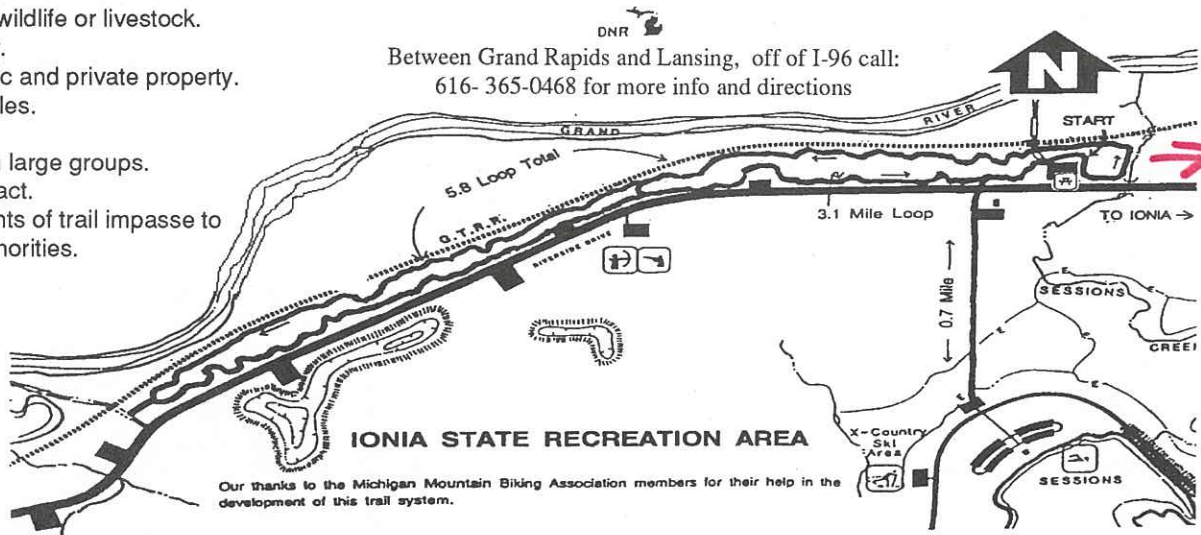
Price(Tax&S&H): \$28.57 **THE GOOD NEWS:**

MMBA MEMBERS get a 10% discount with no shipping /handling charge, making the book \$25.39 and \$2.00 per copy of the MMBA member price is donated back to the MMBA for trail- related activities! This is the definitive book on trails.

1. Always yield the right of way to other trail users.
2. Slow down and pass with care (or stop).
3. Control your speed at all times.
4. Stay on designated trails.
5. Don't disturb wildlife or livestock.
6. Pack out litter.
7. Respect public and private property.
8. Know local rules.
9. Plan ahead.
10. Avoid riding in large groups.
11. Minimize impact.
12. Report incidents of trail impasse to local park authorities.

The **CHIEF COB-MOO-SA** MOUNTAIN BIKE TRAIL

Grand Opening
June 2, 1996
call Park for details!



Other Michigan Secrets by Kendall Smith

Looking to spend a weeks worth of off-road bicycling in a day or two? Do you go to Boulder, Moab, Vermont, West Virginia, OR - Roscommon, MI? Yes, the Roscommon-Higgins Lake-Grayling area can offer families, couples or individuals five excellent trails, and these are just the loops! Not to mention a tremendous variety of other activities.

1. Hartwick Pines State Park Just north of Grayling, east of I-75 Trail specifically for biking, 3 loops from 3 to 7.5 miles, listed novice to intermediate. End of longest loop has rolling descent exciting for beginning off-roaders. Also available: modern camping, logging museum, virgin timber-stands, interactive visitors center, foot-trails to East Branch of the Ausable River.
2. Wakeley Lake Non-Motorized Area 10 miles east of Grayling "foot access" fishing hole and waterfowl refuge. There are 3 loops, 4.5 to 16 miles - listed novice and are just plain quiet and beautiful. Also: there's a fishing dock, primitive camping, varied wildlife.
3. North Higgins Lake State Park: 3 loops, 1 to 6 miles with a few shortcuts. Listed as a novice trail. Also Available; beach, camping, CCC museum, fitness-trail, DNR conference center.
4. South Higgins Lake State Park, at Marl Lk. 3 loops, 2 to 5.5 miles. Listed novice to intermediate, the longest loop has dips, tree roots and mud. Also available: beach,

camping, and fishing. Note: The two Higgins Lk. Parks are among the most popular in the state. Reservations for camping highly recommended. There are also many private campgrounds and lodging available in the area.

5. Ogemaw Hills Pathway, West Branch: 5 miles north of M-55 on Fairview Rd. 12 loops, for a total of 14 miles. Listed novice to expert, it's the gem of the bunch. Built atop a glacial moraine, constant climbs and descents and all loops are rated for diffi-

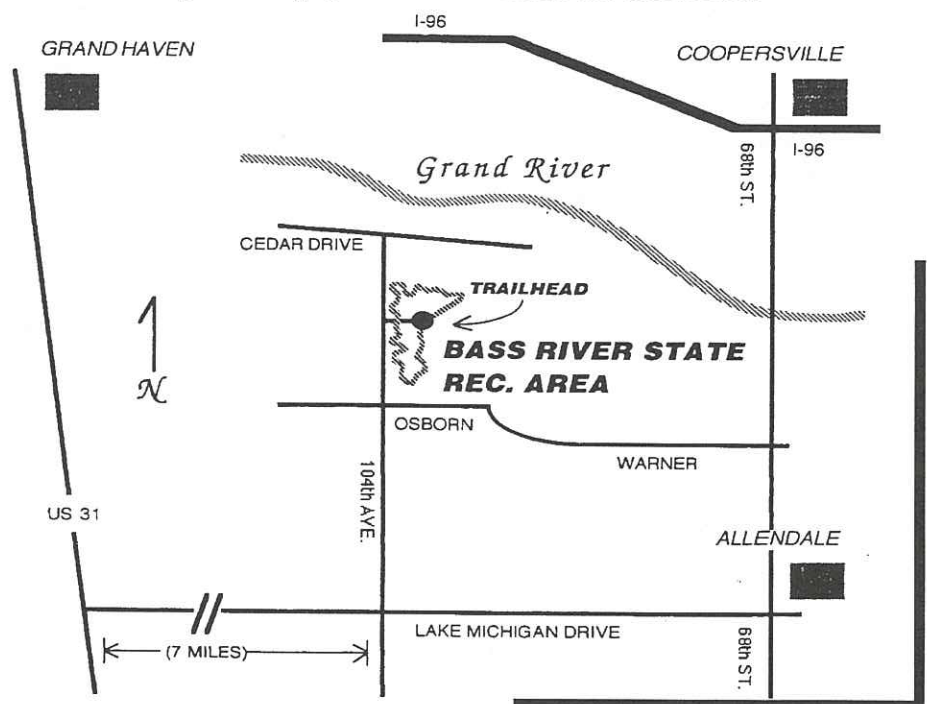
culty. There's a fine over-look of West Branch valley. However, there's **NO WATER!**, and outdoor toilets only. Worth a drive for one day ride. If these trails aren't enough to keep you busy, there is swimming, boating from kayaks, to pontoons, windsurfing, fishing, golf, shopping, dining, theaters, and night clubs. Houghton Lake has all the resort amenities including miniature golf and go-karts. Can you beat that??? Happy vacation planning!

(All these trails, and many more, can be found in the Trail Atlas of Michigan by Dennis Hansen)

NEW RIDING AREA !

APPROX. 3 MILES OF TRAIL BUILT IN 1995. MORE CAN BE BUILT, BUT WE NEED YOUR HELP! CALL THE MMBA AT 365-0468

Between Grand Rapids Muskegon, 616-365-0468 for more info and directions



P.J. HOFFMASTER IS NOT A PLACE TO MOUNTAIN BIKE...

For the past several years, Hoffmaster State Park has experienced an increase in off-road use in the park. As the sport of off-road biking gains in popularity, enthusiasts for the sport are looking for challenging terrain to test their skill and endurance. The wooded dune of P.J. Hoffmaster State Park is challenging terrain. However, due to the sensitive nature of this pristine dune ecosystem and the instability of its sandy soil, off-road use is prohibited, as is horseback riding.

P.J. Hoffmaster State Park represents one of the finest examples of a forested dune complex along the Great Lakes. Within its 1,060 acres, the park features eight major windswept (open parabolic) dunes and over 2 1/2 miles of Lake Michigan beach. The park is home to federally and state protected endangered species. With the sensitivity of the environment in mind, Hoffmaster State Park is ideally suited for low impact activities such as hiking, bird watching, sunbathing, cross country skiing and nature studies.

Through our own observation and contact with local residents, it appears that the park is being used for biking by organized groups of individuals. The spraying of trees to mark routes and the appearance of multiple intersections is evidence that the bikers are riding routes routinely. The use of off-road bikes in this sensitive dune habitat has caused much impact. These unauthorized pathways that have been created will take almost a decade to regenerate with sufficient plant growth. The loss of precious top

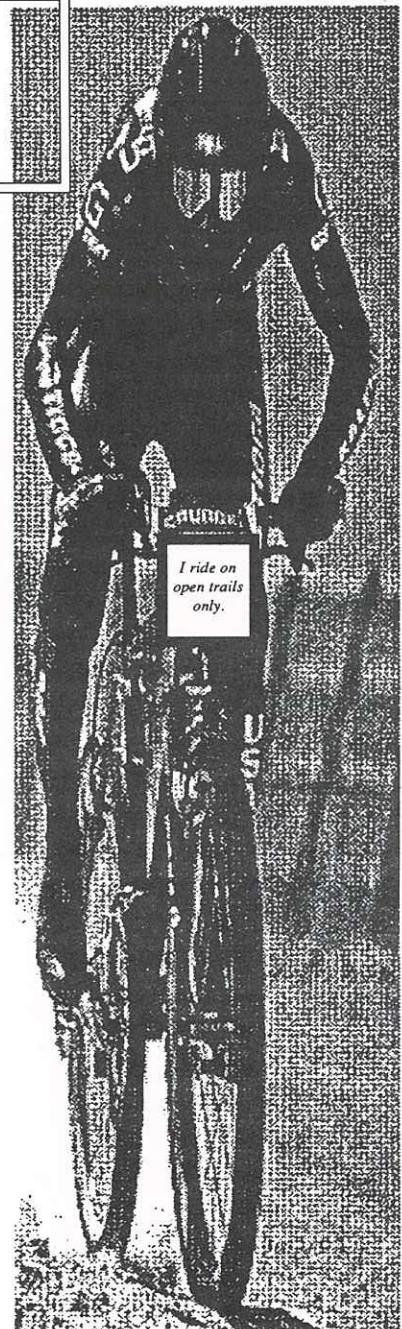
soil will take much longer to accumulate, as it is formed by the slow decay of fallen leaves and tree windfalls.

The complex of P.J. Hoffmaster State Park took thousands of years to evolve and is one of the most valuable dune ecosys-

The MMBA in no way encourages and/or promotes riding in closed areas. If you know someone who is riding at P.J. Hoffmaster ask them to stop. Show them the map on page 18 of the Bass River site. Ride where you belong...

tems for the enjoyment of future generations. As more people seek the unparalleled scenery that the dunes provide, development and recreational pressures will continue to increase. As these pressures mount, heightening people's awareness to the fragile state of dunes, education will insure wise stewardship.

To some, the sand dunes of Lake Michigan are one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Those of us that live with them in our backyards, and those of us that come to enjoy their pristine beauty, owe it to the world to save them. From: Gellette Visitor Center: P.J. Hoffmaster Park



**DO NOT DO THIS AT
P.J. HOFFMASTER
STATE PARK. PERIOD.**

MMBA MISSION STATEMENT

To promote responsible mountain biking and to work toward the goals of common land access and natural resource protection through interaction with policy makers, the cycling industry, race promoters, mountain bikers and other trail users.

A BIRD IN THE HAND- IS WORTH...

BY J. CATLOW



In October, 1995 I traveled to Arizona to do some sight-seeing and to do some mountain bike riding. During that time, Phoenix should have been a comfortable 80-85 degrees. However, it turned out to be a record heat wave, between 95 and 101 degrees. Even with the heat, I managed to do three 3 to 4 hour rides in different terrains.

I was able to hook up with Terry Jones, who owns and operates a small mountain biking touring company in Phoenix (Sonoran Mountain Biking Adventures 602-350-9596). It was still out of season for him to do tours, so he agreed to ride "one on one" with me.

The first ride was a climb up South Mountain Park in central Phoenix. This ride was more strenuous than any ride I was used to doing, being from the Midwest.

The second ride was through Papago Park, again in Phoenix, around Apache Junction. This ride was a single-track trail through cactus and other standard desert

terrain such as sand-washes and gullies. The thing that made this ride the most interesting was an adventure that we experienced in the desert.

While riding about five miles out

into the desert, we all spotted a large bird up in an Acacia tree. As we got closer to the bird, it did not fly away. When we were right next to the tree, we could see that the bird was a falcon and that he had leather straps on its legs that were tangled in the branches of the tree, so it could not escape. We had no idea how long it had been stranded there, but it looked

pretty tired. We contemplated different ways of getting him down from the tree, but we didn't have any tools, and we thought that it might be dangerous for both us and the bird.

We all decided that we should ride back out and try to find a park-ranger. With that plan in mind we headed back. We found a park ranger and he agreed to follow us out to the bird. He brought along some loppers to cut the branch and some leather gloves to handle the bird and a cage to put the bird in, if needed.

After about 2 hours from the time we originally found the bird, the bird was safely out of the tree and in the custody of the ranger, who said that they have a list of pet owners who keep this kind of bird and they would try to find its owner.

The ranger thanked us for being so concerned about the welfare of the bird and told us that we had done a lot to enhance the reputation of mountain bikers in that park. In this case a bird in the hand was worth....a better reputation.

You never know when you will run into a situation that can be both very rewarding personally and also very positive for this great recreational activity.



SALES FOR TRAILS

TEAM III
CYCLING & FITNESS SETS
THE WHEEL'S IN MOTION...



There has been a lot of well intended thought, meaningful conversation and speculation about what might happen if the bicycle shops and bicycle industries here in Michigan joined forces and found a way to fund trail-related activities, on a statewide basis. As it stands now, the Michigan Mountain Biking Association is trying to fill the shoes of unified representation of mountain bikers around the state.

The success of the MMBA is heavily dependent on volunteers to get the resource protection and land access message out to all mountain bikers in the state. MMBA volunteers, (the bike shops customers) have many responsibilities including jobs, family, school, church and other civic duties as well as caring for the trails that all mountain bikers (MMBA or not) ride. The MMBA's budget is targeted by the statewide board to directly affect the trails, in the form of trail maintenance, development and/or protection. Other than a limited printing of brochures and the good will of members who go into bike shops and/or meet mountain bikers

out on the trail, very few resources are available to get the MMBA message out and cultivate new memberships. There is only one group out there with the power to reach each and every person who buys a bike - **the bike shop.**

For the most part, each and every bike out on the trail was purchased from and/or affected by a bike shop sales-person. Even an unenlightened would-be department-store mountain biker will usually end up in his or her local bike shop to repair, replace and/or barter for the bike and components to continue to ride the trails. The MMBA would like to talk to each of these people and share with them a testimonial of the hard work, support and commitment of the MMBA and its volunteers, but, that, of course, is not possible. However, there is still an enormous opportunity for support. A Michigan shop has proved it. They've taken much of the talk about what can be done if a bike shop would (to coin a well known phrase) "JUST DO IT!"

How?

"Just make a buck (\$1.00) for the trails a part-number on the computer." Says Team III Cycling and Fitness associate, Mike Wood. "That's all you do. The first day, March 3, we did it, every one of our customers donated a buck for the trail."

"We just said, before we finished ringing up the sale, 'Want to donate a buck to the MMBA to help keep our trail open! Every customer said, yes.' They have yet to be turned down for a donation, even just buying an accessory. 'The hope,' says Mike, 'is that the money will positively affect the

local trails we and our customers use."

Team III has a sign on their register that says - "CHIP IN A BUCK? - YOU CAN DONATE ONE DOLLAR HERE TO SUPPORT THE MMBA WHO BUILT AND MAINTAINS THE TRAILS FOR ALL OF US!"

"A lot of people that ride Fort Custer have no idea what it takes to keep a place like Fort Custer open." Mike explained, "If the money is going to a good cause, even if the sale is small, they seem to just say yes. They may not necessarily do maintenance or whatever. But the buck is an easy way to show they care. They may not give the buck, but it's a chance for us to inform them on how they can get involved with caring for the trail."

Getting the shop involved was important, Mike said, "The whole shop was in favor of doing it, there were no objections. In a way it's like sales tax on what you buy, but instead of disap-

pearing, there are some visible results, such as Fort Custer." Team III hopes to raise more than two thousand dollars in 1996 for the trails, in what they are calling their "Chip in a Buck" program for right now ("...for lack of a better name at this point," explained Mike).

For information or to send a donation, Team III's number is 1-800-841-9494. The challenge goes out to those shops who have been wanting to start a similar program, perhaps Team III's idea will work for you - give your local trail a part-number and give your customers a chance to be involved by keeping the trails, everyone rides, maintained and open.

**...There is only one group
out there with the power to
reach each and every person
who buys a bike:
the bike shop...**

MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION
TREASURERS REPORT
1995 YTD Thru December

QUESTIONS AND/OR MORE INFORMATION ON MMBA TREASURERS REPORTS CAN BE OBTAINED BY CALLING 810-682-5456 OR 616-785-0120. MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION (MMBA) IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION AND IS TAX EXEMPT UNDER SECTION 501 (C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE. DONATIONS MAY BE TAX EXEMPT TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY IRS, CHECK WITH YOUR TAX ADVISOR. YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN THE MMBA INCLUDES THE BENT RIM BUGLE PUBLICATION WHICH COMES OUT FOUR TIMES EACH YEAR (MAY TO MAY). THERE IS A \$5.00 SERVICE CHARGE FOR TABULATION OF POINTS EACH YEAR (NON-TAX DEDUCTIBLE).

INCOME	GEN	BRB	CHPTR	PTSER	EXEC	TOTAL
Membership renewals:	4,560	4,560	4,560		4,560	18,240
New memberships:	2,285	2,284	2,285		2,285	9,139
Dealers & manufacturers:					5,865	5,865
Dealer solicited memberships:					3,284	3,284
MMBA point series racer fees:				2,825		2,825
MMBA point series promoter fees:				3,085		3,085
Miscellaneous:	2,904*	498			361**	3,763
TOTAL INCOME:	9,749	7,342	6,845	5,910	16,355	46,201

*Annual meeting income,\$998; Quiet World,\$940;LCI,\$608;& misc.,\$358.
**T-shirt fund.

EXPENSE

Chapter disbursements:			4,840			4,840
BRB:		5,269				5,269
MMBA point series:				6,908		6,908
Postage:	2,964					2,964
Printing & copies:	1,801					1,801
Mileage:	1,202					1,202
Phone:	973					973
Meetings:	1,111					1,111
Dues & memberships:	50					50
Office supplies:	1,487				533**	2,020
Executive director:					19,586	19,586
TOTAL EXPENSE:	9,588	5,269	4,840	6,908	20,119	46,724

Account resolution:	161	2,073	2,005	(998)	(3,764)	(523)
Starting checkbook balance:	981	(636)	717	5,784	(4,353)	2,493
Ending checkbook balance:	1,142	1,437	2,722	4,786	(8,117)	1,970

**T-shirt fund.

Membership 1995-1996

Compiled by Robin Scurr, Membership Secretary

The last year has brought many challenges to the Michigan Mountain Biking Association - a significant slowdown in the growth of the organization put a strain on finances, prompting the need to cut back on services and mailings to our members.

We began the year with 1159 members. During the year we received applications from 560 individuals and businesses, had 15 people renew their memberships that had expired in 1994, and, though the latest renewal results are not completely tallied, we unfortunately, saw some members allow their memberships to lapse.

- Changes to Membership for 1995

1/1/1995	Members In Good Standing	1159
	New	560
	Past-Due Renewals	15
	Expired Memberships	(439)
1/1/1996	Members In Good Standing	1295

The effect of this activity was a net increase of 136 members or 11.7%, which compares with a 56% increase for 1994. The renewal rate for 1995 was 63.4%.

The 1295 members breaks down to 1238 individuals and families, and 57 bike shops, businesses, and race promoters. Disappointingly, the 57 professional memberships are down from 76 last year. Next time membership cont. next pages

MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION
TREASURERS REPORT
YTD THRU FEBRUARY, 1996

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>GEN</u>	<u>BRB</u>	<u>CHPTR</u>	<u>PTSER</u>	<u>EXEC</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Membership Renewals:	1,091	1,091	306		1,876	4,364
New Memberships:	254	254	600		254	1,362
Dealers & Manufacturers:					600	600
Dealer Solicited Memberships:					719	719
MMBA Point Series Racer Fees:				715		715
MMBA Point Series Promoter Fees:				500		500
MMBA Point Series Sponsor Fees:						
Miscellaneous:	361				1,077*	1,438
TOTAL INCOME:	1,706	1,345	906	1,215	4,526	9,698

*T-shirt Fund.

EXPENSE

Chapter Disbursements:

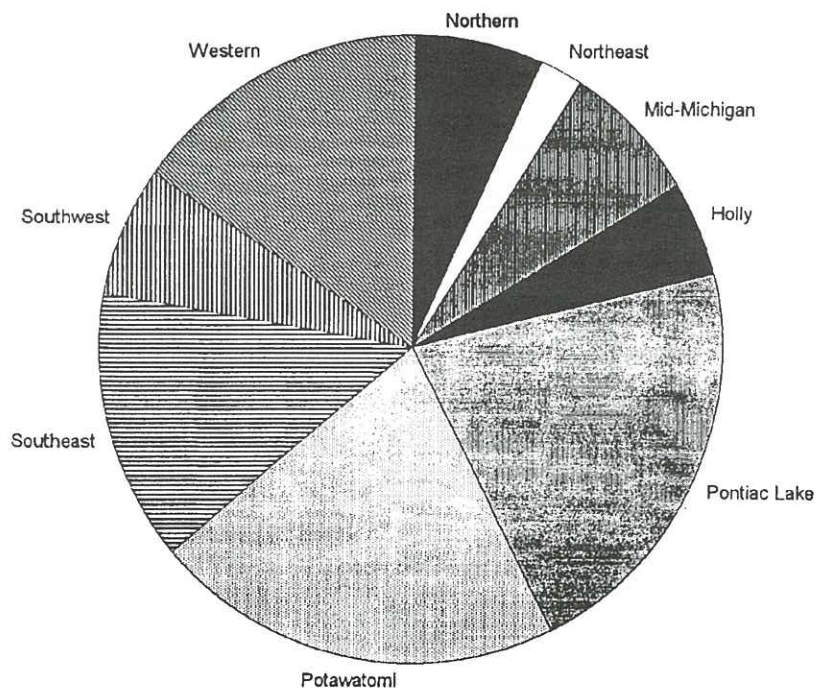
BRB:

MMBA Point Series:	* *			2,530		2,530
Postage:	393					393
Printing & Copies:	258					258
Mileage:	152					152
Phone:	158					158
Meetings:	403					403
Dues & Memberships:	25					25
Office Supplies:	216					216
Executive Director:					4,345**	4,345
TOTAL EXPENSE:	1,605	-0-	-0-	2,530	4,345	8,480

**\$803 T-shirt fund.

ACCOUNT RESOLUTION:	101	1,345	906	(1,315)	181	1,218
STARTING CHECKBOOK BAL.:	1,142	1,437	2,722	4,786	(8,117)	1,970
ENDING CHECKBOOK BALANCE:	1,243	2,782	3,628	3,471	(7,936)	3,188

Membership by Chapter - 1995



"Membership" continued from last page

you are at your local bike shop, ask if they're a member of MMBA and why they aren't if they say "no." We'd like to know what more our volunteers can do to convince them to help out.

The largest chapter in the state is Pontiac Lake with 278 members followed closely by Potawatomi with 275. Last year, Potawatomi was the largest with 264, while Pontiac Lake had only 223.

The members of the MMBA are a dynamic bunch on and off the trail: The Association received 130 address changes during the year. To prevent any interruption in the receipt of mailings, we strongly urge members to notify us of address changes as soon as possible.

The Association has members in 9 states (AL, CA, IL, IN, MA, MI, OH, VA, WI) as well as Ontario, Canada.

During 1996 we hope to see growth rebound in part by the changes made to the MMBA Championship Point Series. The streamlined race schedule, along with a greater presence of the MMBA at the races, will hopefully attract more riders to join the Association.

See you on the trails,
Robin Scurr
Membership Secretary

The Michigan Mountain Biking Association now accepts Visa/MasterCard and Discover. Look for the new applications at your local bike shop or call: 616-785-0120 and we'll help you get involved!

Michigan Mountain Biking Association General Membership Application

MEMBERSHIPS*

Individual \$ 22.00
Family 27.50
Patron 50.00
Benefactor 100.00 and up

Bike Shops/Dealers/Promoters

Regular \$110.00
Patron 250.00
Benefactor 500.00 and up

Information please contact (616) 784-9327

VISA/MasterCard (print clearly)

Account # _____

Exp. Date _____ Todays Date: _____

Print Full Name: _____

Sign _____

Amount Charged \$ _____

MMBA USE ONLY: _____

Name _____

Address _____ Apt# _____

City _____

State _____ Zip _____

Phone (_____) _____ - _____

New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐ Address Change ☐

MMBA POINT SERIES ENTRY For Racers Only

Add \$5 per rider in the point series to the regular membership fee and complete the following;

Rider Name(s) Birth date Racing Class†

†From the following: Beginner, Sport, Expert, Elite.

For more racers, enclose separate sheet of racer info if necessary.

Make checks/money orders payable to:

MICHIGAN MOUNTAIN BIKING ASSOCIATION

2528 Elizabeth Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328

Check Chapter Affiliation;

- ☐ 1 Mid-Michigan (Lansing)
☐ 2 Northern (T.C. includes U.P.)
☐ 3 Pontiac Lake (Pontiac)
☐ 4 Poto (Potawatomi/Ann Arbor)
☐ 5 Southeast (Detroit/Ohio)
☐ 6 Western (GrandRapidsArea)
☐ 7 Southwest (Kalamazoo
South, including Indiana - Illinois)
☐ 8 Northeast (Midland Saginaw
Bay City North to bridge)
☐ 9 Holly (Flint)

Your check can be stapled into this brochure and then mailed!
*(MMBA) is a 501(c)(3) charitable Non-Profit Organization currently Tax Exempt under section of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions may be Tax Exempt to the extent permitted by IRS law. Check with your tax advisor.

TREK[®]USA

Thanks To TREK USA for the support for Trail Maintenance and the
1996 Michigan Mountain Bike Association Championship Points Series



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